



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Disease Management Contracts Awarded to APS and United Healthcare

Atlanta – The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) announced today the award of contracts for Medicaid’s disease management program to APS Health Care and United Healthcare. Approximately 100,000 Medicaid members who are aged, blind or disabled (ABD) will benefit from an enhanced case management program that begins October 1.

APS Health Care will serve members in the Atlanta/North region and United Healthcare will provide services in the Central/South region. Annual net savings to the Medicaid program is projected to be \$42 million for the first full year of implementation. The contracts are for one year with four renewal options.

The implementation of disease management is yet another initiative in the Department’s effort to improve the health outcomes of the 1.5 million recipients served in Georgia’s Medicaid program. “Disease management provides tremendous opportunities for prevention and education as well as intervention and cost savings,” said Tim Burgess, commissioner of the Georgia Department of Community Health. “We look forward to our new partnership with United and APS to help our most vulnerable members understand chronic diseases and the factors that impact their health.”

The disease management initiative is a voluntary program and will work to decrease hospital admissions, inpatient days, inappropriate emergency room visits, but most importantly, empower members to be proactive partners in their own health.

Chronic diseases such as congestive heart failure, coronary artery disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asthma, hemophilia and schizophrenia will be targeted for comprehensive case management. In addition to a 24 hour nurse call center, APS and United Healthcare will actively educate members in appropriate use of medications, preventative care

and wellness, and prevention of acute episodes that lead to hospitalization and emergency room visits.

Members will undergo an initial baseline assessment of their health and determine effective treatment plans. Case managers will review poly-pharmacy patterns, over and under utilization of health resources and work with primary care physicians and local providers to improve the health outcomes of our members.

The Department issued the disease management Request for Proposal (RFP) on March 2, 2005 and received proposals from five bidders in April.

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Region	Counties
Atlanta/North APS Health Care	Banks, Barrow, Bartow, Butts, Carroll, Catoosa, Chattooga, Cherokee, Clarke, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dade, Dawson, DeKalb, Douglas, Elbert, Fannin, Fayette, Floyd, Forsyth, Franklin, Fulton, Gilmer, Gordon, Gwinnett, Habersham, Hall, Haralson, Hart, Henry, Jackson, Jasper, Lumpkins, Madison, Morgan, Murray, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, Rabun, Rockdale, Spalding, Stephens, Towns, Union, Walker, Walton, White and Whitfield
Central/South United Healthcare Solutions	Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Baker, Baldwin, Ben Hill, Berrien, Bibb, Bleckley, Brantley, Brooks, Byran, Bulloch, Burke, Calhoun, Camden, Candler, Charlton, Chatham, Chattoochee, Clay, Clinch, Coffee, Colquitt, Columbia, Cook, Crawford, Crisp, Decatur, Dodge, Dooly, Dougherty, Early, Echols, Effingham, Emanuel, Evans, Glascock, Glynn, Grady, Greene, Hancock, Harris, Heard, Houston, Irwin, Jeff Davis, Jefferson, Jenkins, Johnson, Jones, Lamar, Lanier, Laurens, Lee, Liberty, Lincoln, Long, Lowndes, Macon, Marion, McDuffie, McIntosh, Meriwether, Miller, Mitchell, Monroe, Montgomery, Muscogee, Peach, Pierce, Pike, Pulaski, Putnam, Quitman, Randolph, Richmond, Schley, Screven, Seminole, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taliaferro, Tattnall, Taylor, Telfair, Terrell, Thomas, Tift, Toombs, Truetlen, Troup, Turner, Twiggs, Upson, Ware, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Webster, Wheeler, Wilcox, Wilkes, Wilkinson, Worth